

Treasury Department,

Bureau of the Mint,

Washington, D. C., March 22, 1899.

D. K. Tuttle,
Melter & Refiner, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Sir:

While at the Assay Office in Denver, I would be greatly obliged if you would carefully scrutinize the methods and operations of the establishment and when you return, make a written report upon the same. If you note any particular in which you think improvements might be made, I desire suggestion. If you think any department of the office is weak or that any department has more work than is required, I would like you to inform me. In this connection I will quote a paragraph from a report made by Dr. White after his visit there a few months ago. It is as follows:

"In the melting department I found four men employed as Assistant Melters. This is an unusual number, since only four furnaces are in use and one melter can easily run two furnaces. It is certainly contrary to the usual practice in Assay Offices to find twice the number of Melters that there are Assayers, and that the First Assistant Melter, whose work is that of a skilled workman, receives more pay than the First Assistant Assayer, upon whom the accuracy of the work of the whole institution must rest."

I particularly desire to have your opinion upon this suggestion and trust that you will consider it as part of your errand it there to make a general report upon the workings of the Institu-

Very truly yours,

Geo. R. Roberts

Director of the Mint.